

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The metering valve according to claim 1, wherein the inlet valve is in the closed position and the outlet valve is in the non-dispensing position when the metering valve is at rest.

Claim 4 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 1, wherein the inlet valve and the outlet valve are adapted to be independently operable.

Claim 5 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 2, wherein the inlet and/or outlet valve poppet includes an incompressible material, and wherein the inlet and/or outlet valve seat includes a compressible material.

Claim 6 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 2, wherein the inlet and/or outlet valve poppet includes a compressible material, and wherein the inlet and/or outlet valve seat includes an incompressible material.

Claim 7 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 2, additionally comprising an inlet valve mover adapted to bias the inlet valve poppet.

Claim 8 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 7, further comprising an outlet valve mover adapted to bias the outlet valve poppet, wherein said outlet valve mover and said inlet valve mover are adapted to be independently operable.

Claim 9 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 8, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover is adapted to be mechanically actuable.

Claim 10 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 8, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover is adapted to be electrically actuable.

Claim 11 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 10, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover include a multi-component strip or wire which is adapted to be deformable in response to electrical current flow.

Claim 12 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 11, wherein the multi-component strip or the multi-component wire include a plurality of layers, wherein individual layers of the plurality of layers comprise a metal, and wherein the individual metallic layers are comprised of different metals.

Claim 13 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 12, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover include the multi-component strip, and wherein the multi-component strip includes a bimetallic strip.

Claim 14 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 13, wherein the multi component strip includes at least one piezoelectric or piezoresistive material.

Claim 15 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 11, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover include the multi-component wire, and wherein the multi-component wire includes a nickel-titanium alloy material.

Claim 16 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 8, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover is adapted to be magnetically actuable.

Claim 17 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 16, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover includes a magnetic material or a magnetically inductive material.

Claim 18 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 8, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover is adapted to be pneumatically actuable.

Claim 19 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 8, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover is adapted to be hydraulically actuable.

Claim 20 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 18, wherein the inlet valve mover and/or the outlet valve mover includes a fluid-filled bag or tube adapted to be capable of transferring hydraulic force.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The metering valve according to claim 16 ~~20~~, wherein the outlet valve poppet is in the form of a ball, a mushroom, a cone, a disc or a plug.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The metering valve according to claim 16 ~~20~~, wherein the inlet valve poppet is in the form of a ball, a mushroom, a cone, a disc or a plug.

Claim 23 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 1, wherein said valve body additionally defines a sampling chamber, and wherein the inlet is adapted to permit flow from the sampling chamber to the metering chamber.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The metering valve ~~chamber~~ according to claim 23, wherein the metering chamber is adapted to have a fixed volume.

Claim 25 (Previously amended): The metering valve according to claim 23, wherein the metering chamber is adapted to have a variable metering volume.